

Name: _____ Date: _____

“The Sniper” by Liam O’Flaherty

Vocabulary

Be able to define the following words and understand them when they appear in the story or class discussion.

TERM	DEFINITION
Ascetic	
Beleaguered	
Enveloped	
Fanatic	
Lodge	
Spasmodically	
Reel	
Ruse	
Remorse	

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Literary Analysis

Respond to the following questions on a separate piece of paper. Remember to use examples from the text, where appropriate, to support your responses.

1. From what narrative voice is the story told? Refer to your “Short Story Literary Elements” handout to help you with this.
 - a. How might this story be different if the story was told from the third person perspective?
2. Describe the setting of the story. Is the setting important to the events that occur in this story? Explain.
3. What sort of man is the sniper? What do the following things reveal about his character?
 - a. The look in his eyes (paragraph 2)
 - b. Killing the old woman (paragraph 9)
 - c. Dressing his wounded arm (paragraphs 12/13)
4. Identify and describe one example from the story for each of the following kinds of conflict:
 - a. Physical
 - b. Psychological
5. Find an example of each of the following rhetorical devices in the story:
 - a. Onomatopoeia
 - b. Simile
6. What is the theme of this story?
7. Describe the sniper’s ruse to kill the other sniper.
 - a. How does the sniper feel about war after he had killed the other sniper?